

Achieving excellence through leadership

Promoting British Values at Giles Junior School

The DfE have recently reinforced the need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.” (2011 Prevent Strategy).

At Giles Junior School we believe that keeping children safe and preparing them for life in modern Britain is integral to their education, so we reinforce the values in the following way:

Democracy

We strongly promote democracy at Giles Junior School through providing pupils with the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Lighthouse team and through pupil voice questionnaires. There is a consistent process for the yearly election of the Lighthouse team representative where pupils who would like the position write a speech for the class. The class then vote for the child they feel will carry out the role most effectively.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days at Giles Junior School. Through assemblies, PSHE lessons and our behaviour policy pupils are taught the value and reasons behind the laws; that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. In order to take full ownership for this, pupils are part of the decision making about consequences for actions within school.

Individual Liberty

Through promoting the qualities of the 7 Habits, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. The school also promotes the values related to ‘Protective Behaviour’, with all classes being taught that ‘1) Everybody has the right to feel safe all of the time, 2) There is nothing so big or small we can’t talk to someone about it, 3) Feelings are feelings, behaviour is a choice with consequences’.

Mutual Respect

Through the 7 Habits, pupils are taught the importance of having a mutual respect, with particular emphasis on ‘seeking first to understand then to be understood’. In situations where children show signs of intolerance towards each other, mediation is completed by a member of staff, where the children have the opportunity to share their feelings with each other. Mutual respect is continually promoted throughout the school; through lessons, assemblies and playtime rules.

Understanding of Different Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Assemblies are timetabled to ensure that a range of cultures, beliefs and values are promoted. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

Review

This document will be reviewed annually.

The next scheduled review of this document is in October 2021.

Distribution

This policy will be issued to:-

- a) All governors
- b) All members of school staff
- c) All parents

Approved: Dawn De-Vall

Date: 19th November 2020